

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A method of processing digital images (30) comprising data blocks, said method including
 - a step of determining (31) a homogeneous region which contains two adjacent blocks (B_j , B_k) whose continuous components (L_j , L_k) differ by a value lower than a predetermined threshold,
 - and a step of determining (32) a segment to be corrected (S_{jk}) comprising a set of initial data on either side of a border separating the adjacent blocks, characterized in that the method further comprises a step of replacing (33) the set of initial data of the segment to be corrected by a set (S'_{jk}) of corrected data, said set being chosen at random from various sets of corrected data (34), an average value of a set of corrected data being substantially equal to an average value of the continuous components of the two adjacent blocks.

2. (original) A processing method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the replacing step is intended to be applied to the various segments to be corrected overlapping the two adjacent blocks.

3. (original) A processing method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that an average value of one half of the set of corrected data is substantially equal to the average value of the continuous components of the two adjacent blocks.

4. (currently amended) A decoding method intended to produce decoded digital images and comprising a processing method as claimed in ~~one of the claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1 for processing the decoded digital images so as to produce processed digital images.

5. (currently amended) A method of coding digital images in the form of data blocks, comprising an inverse frequency transformation step followed by a processing step as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, suitable for processing decoded data blocks coming from the inverse frequency transformation step so as to produce processed data blocks.

6. (currently amended) A video decoder suitable for producing decoded digital images and comprising a processing device which utilizes the processing method according to ~~any one of the claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, suitable for processing the decoded digital images so as to produce processed digital images.

7. (currently amended) A video coder suitable for receiving digital images in the form of data blocks and comprising inverse frequency transform means followed by a processing device which utilizes the processing method as claimed in ~~any one of the claims~~
~~1 to 3~~claim 1, suitable for processing decoded data blocks coming from inverse frequency transform means so as to produce processed data blocks.

8. (original) A portable appliance comprising a video decoder as claimed in claim 7, for displaying the processed digital images on a screen of said appliance.

9. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising a set of instructions which, when they are loaded in a circuit, causes the circuit to carry out the method of processing digital images as claimed in ~~any one of the claims~~~~1 to 3~~claim 1.